

## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY Bulgaria REPORT [REDACTED]

SUBJECT Bulgarian Industrial and Military Information DATE DISTR. 15 July 1959 25X1

NO. PAGES 7

REFERENCES RD

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED] 25X1

PLACE & DATE ACQ. [REDACTED]

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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2. Bulgarian Economic Information

## A. Military Industries.

- (1) The military factory at 9 Septemvri in Sofia was requisitioned from an unidentified private individual and formerly was an engineering factory. It has been modernized and expanded during recent years; it is located in the eastern outskirts of the city near the vicinity of the monument to the Russian soldier constructed during the prewar period. The plant, which is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Defense, employs from 600 to 800 persons - both military and civilian - in three shifts of 8 hours each and is directed by an unidentified military officer. The plant is concerned with the repair of military motorcars and motorcycles and the construction of bodies, chassis, bolts, and various undetermined parts for motor vehicles. Up to the present, no engines have been produced here. The plant covers an area of about 10 to 15 hectares. The factory is experimenting on the future series production of a 250 cubic centimeter, two cycle, four-cylinder engine for motorcycles. The engine is called "Balkan" and has been in the experimental stage since August 1958 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] series production is scheduled to begin toward the end of 1959 or during the first months of 1960 at the latest. [REDACTED]

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- (2) The Baruta Explosives Factory at Vladaya is a prewar powder plant which has undergone some changes during recent years. It is located about 600 meters from the western limits of Vladaya on the left side of the road to Dimitrovo. This factory is also under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Defense and employs from 250 to 300 workers, including a number of women among the office workers, in three shifts of 8 hours each. The factory produces TNT in blocks and various kinds of powder; it also leads shells but the quantity and destination of production is not known. The factory consists of one two-story masonry building and two masonry sheds of undetermined dimensions. The greater part of the workshops and storehouses are underground. There are no railroad connections as the factory uses military trucks for transportation.

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- (3) Zaved Azeterev, a factory producing nitrogen and chemical products in Merichleri, is a new factory whose construction was begun in 1950. Although limited operations started in 1952, work on the expansion and finishing of the factory was still underway on 21 January 1959. It is located immediately north of the Maritsa River, about three kilometers southwest of Merichleri and thirteen kilometers southeast of Chirpan. The factory is near an undetermined stream flowing into the Maritsa River. the factory area at 12 to 15 hectares. This is one of the largest factories of its kind in Bulgaria and comes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Chemical Industry. The director is not identified. There are many Russian chemists and specialists among the 600 to 800 workers who work three 8 hour shifts. An additional 400 to 500 are planned for 1960. The factory produces chemical fertilizers, nitrogenous chemicals in general, and explosives such as TNT, pyrite, etc. in undetermined quantities. The chemical fertilizers go to the USSR and the nitrogenous chemicals and explosives to Bulgaria. All the machinery is modern and of Soviet make.

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## Civilian Industries

- (1) The Zaved Olev-Tsinkov factory at Kurdzhali is a new plant whose construction was begun in 1953. Limited operation began in 1956 but work on building expansion was still under way on 21 January 1959. It is located about three kilometers from the northeast limits of Kurdzhali, on the left side of the road from Khaskevo to Momchilgrad and southwest of the village of Stremsi. the factory area to be about 10 hectares. It is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Industry and employs about 1,600 workers in three shifts of 8 hours each. The factory produces zinc and copper ingots in undetermined quantities and methods of operations. Eighty per cent of the product goes to the USSR and 20 per cent to the domestic industry. The raw materials for the plant come from the mines of Rudezem and Madan; the latter is a few kilometers from Rudezem. The factory has standard-gauge railroad connections with the Kurdzhali station.
- (2) The Vulkan Cement Factory at Dimitrograd is a prewar plant which has been expanded. It is located on the southeast outskirts of Dimitrograd, halfway to Bela Reka, and covers an area 800 meters square. The factory employs about 900 workers in three 8 hour shifts and produces about 200 quintals of cement per day; 70 per cent of the product is exported (USSR) and 30 per cent goes to the Bulgarian construction industry. There is a railroad spur from the Dimitrograd Station to the factory which has three brick chimneys, each about 30 meters high, rising above the factory.
- (3) Construction on the Lenin Metallurgical Factory at Tsurkva was begun in 1952; operation started toward the end of 1954 or during the first months of 1955. Expansion work was still under way on 21 January 1959. The factory is located on the northeastern outskirts of Tsurkva, north of the Dimitrovo-Sofia railroad line, and east of the Struma River. The plant, which is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Industry, covers an area of about six hectares and employs about 2,000 workers in three eight-hour

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shifts. The plant smelts scrap iron and manufactures rods for the construction industry in undetermined quantities. The good rods are all exported to the USSR; the rejects (about 25 per cent) are used by the Bulgarian construction industry. The raw material is supplied by the various scrap iron yards in the area. The plant is composed of eight "impressive" masonry structures of undetermined dimensions. The plant machinery is all modern and of Soviet manufacture. [ ] the machinery includes three large "Domenna Pesht" electric furnaces (sic; literally, blast furnace) of undetermined smelting capacity. All machinery was installed by Soviet technicians. Three masonry chimneys about 25 meters high rise above the factory area and a fourth was under construction on 21 January 1959. A standard gauge railroad spur runs from the factory to the Tsurkva thermal electric power plant, facing the factory along a southeast-northwest axis. (See section on Motive Power.)

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- (4) The Georgi Danyanov Electrical (Equipment) Factory under construction at Pirdop was built at the express desire of Minister Chervenkov, a native of Pirdop, and is the only factory in that town. Construction was begun in 1957 and had not yet been completed on 21 January 1959 though limited production started in September-October 1958. The factory is located on the southern outskirts of Pirdop, a town of about 10,000 inhabitants. At present, the factory employs about 600 persons in all, including the factory workers and the construction workers not under the jurisdiction of the factory. [ ] the factory will employ 2,000 when it is in full operation. There is a single eight hour shift. The factory produces electric wire of all dimensions for low and high voltages. 25X1
- (5) The prewar Georgi Dimitrov Locomotive Factory at Sofia has been expanded and modernized since the war. It is located immediately south of the central railroad station, at the corner of Ulitsa Georgi Dimitrov and Ulitsa Kosludui, immediately west of an overpass. It employs about 1,200 workers in three 8 - hour shifts. The factory repairs locomotives, passenger coaches, and freight cars. Some unidentified Soviet technicians are employed at the plant. The factory has all workshops necessary for repair and most of the machinery is modern and Soviet. The factory is also equipped with unidentified furnaces. There are four brick chimneys from 15 to 20 meters high rising above the factory area. The factory has a railroad spur of several tracks to the central station of Sofia.
- (6) The 9 Septemvri Shoe Factory in Sofia is a large prewar shoe factory which was expanded and modernized between 1954 and 1956. It is located on the eastern outskirts of the city, about 1,200 meters west of the 9 Septemvri Military Factory already mentioned, in the Blagoev District and directly south of the belt line railroad. The factory employs about 1,500 to 1,600 workers, half of them women, in three 8-hour shifts. It produces leather footwear for men, women, and children in quantities not known. Eighty per cent of the product goes to the USSR. [ ] the footwear shipped to the USSR is marked with an undetermined Soviet mark in order to show that it was manufactured in the USSR. The cardboard packing cartons come directly from the USSR. It seems that a large part of this footwear is subsequently exported from the USSR to China, North Korea [ ] Twenty per cent of the production goes to the Bulgarian market. The factory area covers about ten hectares. It has a transformer station of its own but no railroad connections. 25X1
- (7) The Slabotokov Factory of low voltage electrical equipment in Sofia is a new factory built in the immediate postwar period; production started about the end of 1954. It is located on the northwestern outskirts of Sofia, immediately west of the "West" railroad station in the Zakharni District. [ ] The factory employs from 1,700 to 1,800 workers in three 8-hour shifts and produces the following civilian radio receiving sets:

Khristo Botev - 6 tube, FM  
Marek - 6 tube, FM

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Rodina - 6 tube, FM  
 Baikal - 5 plus 1 tubes  
 Pionir - 3 plus 1 tubes (only medium wave)

The factory also produces electric flatirons, electric cookers, electric hot-plates, electric motors for undetermined machinery from 3 to 200 horsepower, civilian telephones, miscellaneous telephone exchanges, relays, transformers for radio sets and bells, tape recorders, unidentified field telephones for the armed forces, electric meters, etc., all in undetermined quantities. The electric motors go to the USSR which in turn exports them to China [redacted] North Korea, etc. Some of the radio sets go to [redacted] China, and Poland. The field telephones go to the Bulgarian armed forces. The remainder of the products goes to the Bulgarian market. [redacted] this is a large factory [redacted] The factory has railroad connections with the west station of Sofia. Four brick chimneys about 30 meters high rise above the area. The electric power for the plant is supplied by the new thermal electric power plant of Sofia, subsequently described (see section on Motive Power). [redacted] in case of armed conflict, the factory can transfer a large part of its equipment to underground quarters, constructed specifically for this purpose about 50 meters away, which would afford protection against air attacks.

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## C. Extractive Industry

- (1) The uranium mine at Bukovo was discovered by the Germans in 1939. Although they made the first drillings, exploitation was not begun until immediately after the war by the Russians. The area is roughly bounded by Rudozem, Laykov Chukar, Madan, Burievo, Konski Dok, and Strashimir. All the directors of the mine (excluding the vice-director), the engineers, and a large part of the technicians are Soviet. The workers are all Bulgarians, number not determined. Membership in the Communist Party is required for access to the mine where there are three 8-hour shifts daily. The mine produces 70 per cent radioactive pyrite and 50 per cent radioactive galenite in undetermined quantities. Production figures are a state secret with the total produce going to the USSR. The mine has two stations for the purifying, washing, and collecting of the ore: one at Rudozem which receives the ore from the mines on the slopes of the Yuzhni Rodo mountains; the other is at Medhousa and receives the ore from the mines of Laykov Chukar and neighboring places.
- (2) The machinery used by these two stations is undetermined. The ore is transported by overhead cableway from the mines to the purifying, washing, and collecting stations and by rail from these stations to the USSR. A railroad spur was built in 1955 for this purpose from the Sofia-Khaskovo railroad line to Bukovo. [redacted] the spur is about three kilometers long and that a small masonry railroad station, exclusively for the uranium ore trains, has been built at the junction.

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## D. Electric Power

- (1) [redacted] the Stalin Electric Power Combine (Zavod Stalin) in Sofia [redacted] Formerly a small thermal electric power plant bearing the name "Stalin", new construction work was done from 1954 to 1957 when the present scale operation was begun. Work of further expansion and development of the combine will probably be begun in mid-1959. All expansion work on this plant was done by the TETS Stalin construction enterprise of Sofia. The plant is located about 800 meters north of the central railroad station, in Georgi Dimitrov District. (See attached sketch [redacted] The plant has a 150 kilowatt per hour capacity with direct current and 220 volts. The annual production is undetermined. The electricity produced here, along with the contribution of another unidentified electric power plant, supplies Sofia and the surrounding area. The plant has six 25 kilowatt turbines of unidentified Soviet [redacted] types. It uses the coal from the Dimitrovo coalfield. At present there are about 600 men employed in three 8-hour shifts.

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1 (See sketch [redacted])

This is the cooling tower of the new thermal electric power plant built in 1956. The tower is built of reinforced concrete, 54 meters high, and 110 meters in diameter. Two 80 millimeter steel pipes for hot water laid in concrete canals at a depth of 60 centimeters connect the tower with the power plant (see letter "a" on sketch).

25X1

2 These are two cooling towers of the old prewar plant. They are also of reinforced concrete, 28 meters high and 34 meters in diameter. A single 30 millimeter steel hot water pipe, laid at a depth of about 60 centimeters, connects each tower with the power plant (see letter "b" on sketch).

3 This prewar power plant, Stalin-1, is a reinforced concrete building 28 meters long, 15 meters wide, and 12 meters high, with a vaulted roof of reinforced concrete. This plant has two 25 kilowatt turbines [redacted]

25X1

4 This is Plant Stalin-2, which began operation in 1957. It is a reinforced concrete structure 80 meters long, 26 meters wide, and 32 meters high with a vaulted roof of reinforced concrete. This plant has four 25 kilowatt turbines of unidentified Soviet make, installed by Soviet specialists toward the end of 1956; the turbines are set on concrete bases about 8 meters thick. Three reinforced concrete flues, running about 4 meters above the ground, lead to the smokestack.

5 This is the smokestack for Stalin-1, of reinforced concrete, 56 meters high and 3 meters in diameter at the base.

6 This is the smokestack for Stalin-2, built in 1955-1956, of reinforced concrete, 110 meters high with a diameter of 24 meters at the base, tapering to about 8 meters at a height of 10 meters.

7 The distributing station and start of the power line is located here. It is of steel trellis construction and measuring about 80 x 32 x 10 meters. The area is enclosed by an iron fence about two meters high. Access is limited to the assigned personnel. (See [redacted] sketch.)

25X1

8 This is a standard gauge railroad spur connecting the plant coal yard with the central station in Sofia.

9 An open coal yard is located here enclosed by a barbed wire fence strung on steel posts.

10 Located here is a coal drying shed of reinforced concrete, 38 meters long, 16 meters wide, 4 meters high, and 4 meters deep. Bulgarian type electric conveyor belts made by the Zavod "Surp i Chuk" of Stara Zagora carry the coal from the drying shed to the power plant.

(2) [redacted] the Republika Thermal Electric Power Plant is located on the immediate outskirts of Tserkva, almost opposite (running along a southeast-northwest axis) the Lenin Metallurgical Factory previously described, and that it has an installed capacity of 75 kilowatt-hours.

25X1

(3) The new thermal electric power plant under construction at Dimitrovgrad is a small plant which has been undergoing expansion since 1952. Expansion work was still under way on 21 January 1959 and had reached the final stages; the new machinery was being installed. It is said to be the largest thermal electric power plant in Bulgaria and employs about 600 persons in two 8-hour shifts. The construction work was done by the Zavodski Stroezhni enterprise of Dimitrovgrad. The factory is located from 1,500 to 2,000 meters east of Dimitrovgrad, directly on the highway to Merichleri, a well-known coal center.

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The factory uses coal fuel and has a present capacity of 125 kilowatt-hours; the future capacity is 400 - 450 kilowatt-hours.

### 3. Bulgarian Political Information:

A. [ ] the concentration camp for political prisoners on the island of Belene [ ]

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[ ] is the only prison of this type still existing in Bulgaria. It was opened in February 1949 at which time all other camps for political prisoners were abolished. The camp consists of about 40 wooden barracks, used for administration, living quarters, kitchen and mess hall, recreation rooms, etc. There about 4,000 men and women at the camp, all political prisoners.

25X1

B. The prisoners are employed in various camp duties (kitchen work, tailoring, etc.) and in the construction of shoreline embankments against Danube flood waters. This work is carried out with simple tools and with no mechanized equipment. Working hours are from sunrise to sunset with two hours off for midday meals, both in winter and in summer. A battalion of the People's Militia is assigned to guard duty. [ ]

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### 4. Bulgarian Ground Forces

A. There is an unidentified unit of transport engineers stationed in Sofia; strength about 1,000 men; commanding officer, a colonel. The unit is quartered in prewar barracks, with many workshops and automobile garages on the barracks grounds. The barracks are located on the eastern outskirts of the city, on Bulevar 9 Septemvri near the Military Factory described in the section under the heading "Bulgarian Economic Information."

B. Barracks of unidentified unit in Sofia. Constructed in 1954, 1955, and 1956; location is immediately south of the railroad line from the central station in Sofia to Plovdiv, on Gheo Milev Street in the Chervenkov District, near the Student Village and the Veterinary School. There are impressive barracks enclosed by a wall about two meters high. [ ] artillery, antiaircraft, and motorized infantry units are quartered there.

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### 5. Bulgarian Air Forces

A. There is an armed military airfield at Uzundzhovo which is a prewar airfield that has been modernized in recent years. The former grass runway has been replaced by a concrete runway and there were plans for the construction of a number of buildings to be used as barracks and storehouses. [ ]

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The airfield is located about four kilometers from the southwestern outskirts of Uzundzhovo on the left side of the road to Khaskovo. The field lies about 520 meters above sea level. It is occupied by the Bulgarian Air Force. The following numbers refer to installations marked on the sketch [ ] measurements are approximate:

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- (1) Concrete runway, 530 by 72 meters, running northwest-southeast.
- (2) Semicircular concrete taxiway 11 meters wide, running from the hangar to the runway. It offers room for only one plane at a time.
- (3) Reinforced concrete hangar, measuring 58 by 18 meters, with a semi-valuted roof.

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- (4) Fuel and lubricant depot, underground, lined with concrete, 38 by 16 meters. On the surface there is an extension one meter high, covered with fill dirt, planted with grass, and resembling a railroad loading platform; contents unknown.
- (5) Washing station and underground water reservoir. On the surface is a small masonry shed of 10 by 6 meters, equipped with various pumps and treated canvas hoses.
- (6) Barracks and body of guards; a two-story masonry structure measuring 15 by 8 meters. The second story houses the airmen on alert and the ground floor, the guards.
- (7) Searchlight and windsock installation; a small masonry tower of undetermined dimensions.
- (8) Radar station: two unidentified antennas strung on a steel trellis at the base of which is a small sentry box; [redacted] the radar operator worked here. 25X1

Floodlights for night illumination were placed along the perimeter of the runway.

[redacted] two or three small planes, without propellers, of an unidentified Soviet type stationed at the field. [redacted] they are jet fighters [redacted] the airfield headquarters, the officers quarters, and the barracks of the airmen are located in Khaskovo. Civilian homes have been requisitioned, awaiting the planned construction of new buildings at the airfield. 25X1

- B. [redacted] the unidentified airfield at Konstantinovo [redacted] 25X1  
[redacted] is located on the outskirts of Konstantinovo in a place called Chayka. 25X1

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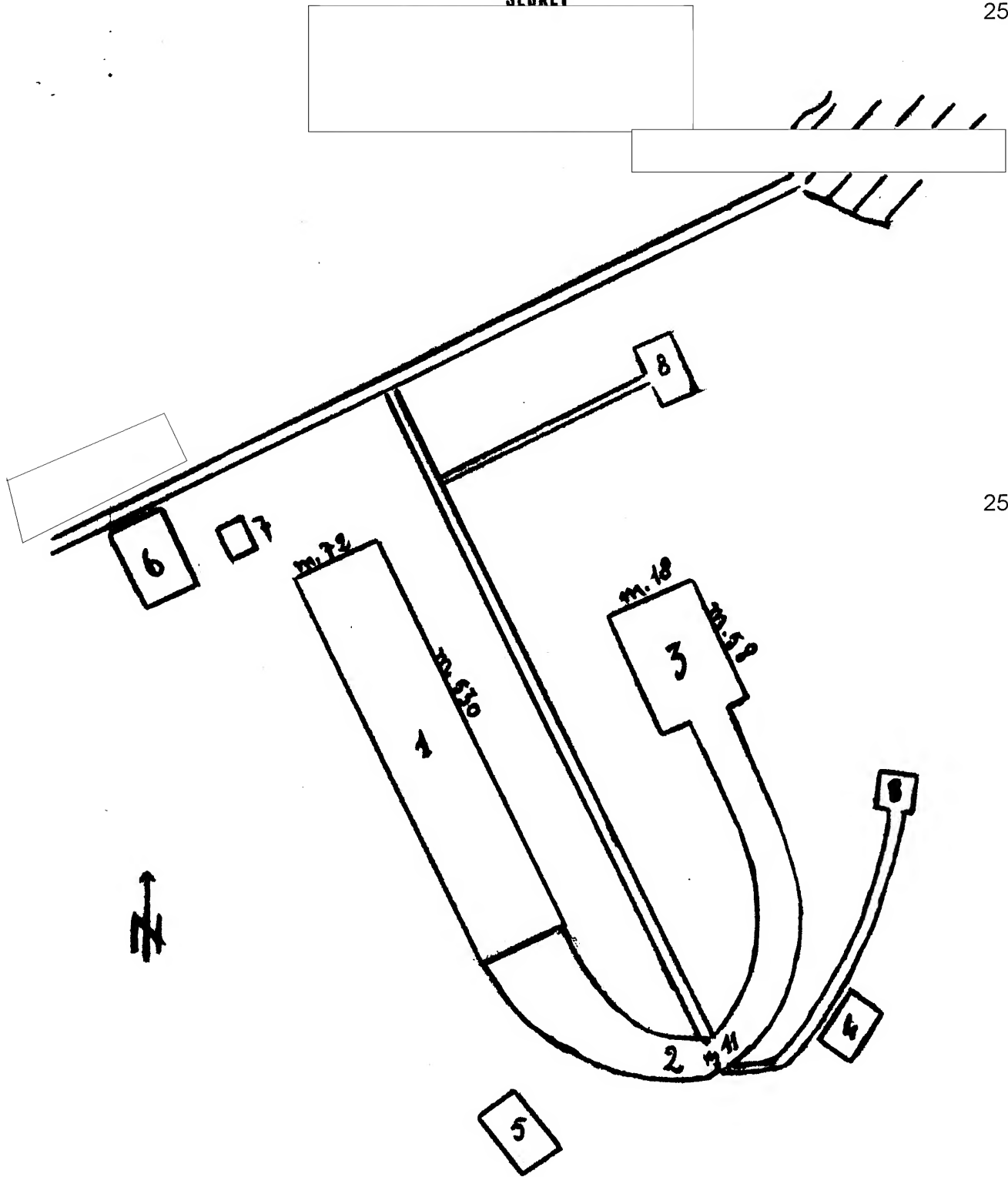
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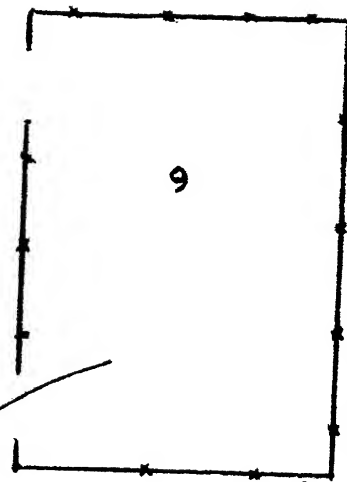
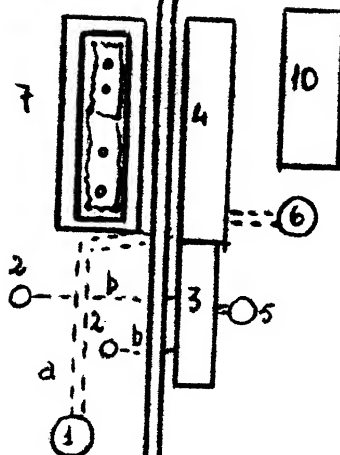
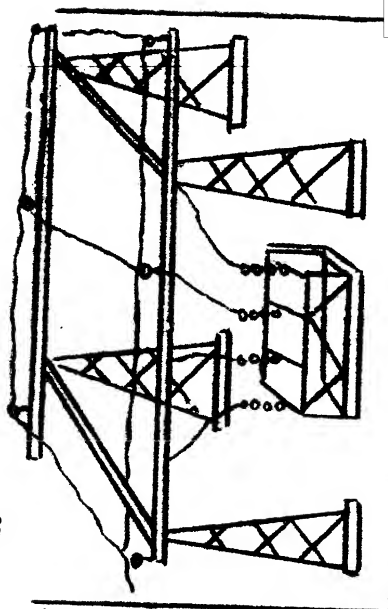
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